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Letter dated 2 November 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 4 October 1999 (A/54/446-S/1999/1034), I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 4 to 8, 10, 13, 18, 25 and 28 October 1999.

On 4 October, twenty-nine (29) Turkish military aircraft (20 F-16, 4 F-4, 2 RF-4, 1 C-160, as well as 2 of unknown type) entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations. The 2 F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area west of Paphos, and the 2 F-4 and 1 RF-4 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the areas of Kyrenia and Karpasia. The C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia, before landing, at 1644 hours, at the illegal airport of Tymbou, in the occupied area of the Republic, from where it departed, at 1733 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 5 October, twenty-two (22) Turkish military aircraft (20 F-16 and 2 RF-4) entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations. Four of the F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area west of Paphos.

On 6 October, twenty (20) Turkish military aircraft (18 F-16, 1 C-160, as well as 1 C-130) entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations. Four of the F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Akamas before returning to the flight information region of Ankara. The C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a south-easterly direction. Early that afternoon, the same

aircraft violated once more the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before returning to the flight information region of Ankara. The C-130 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before landing, at 1111 hours, at the illegal airport of Tymbou, in the occupied area of the Republic, from where it departed, at 1659 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 7 October, eight (8) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations.

On 8 October, four (4) Turkish military aircraft (2 F-16 and 2 RF-4) entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations, as well as the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia.

On 10 October, one (1) KC-135 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations, as well as the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia.

On 13 October, one (1) KC-135 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations.

On 18 October, one (1) B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations. The aircraft in question violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at 1121 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus, from where it departed, at 1700 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 25 October, two (2) Turkish military aircraft (1 C-160, as well as 1 F-4) entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations. The two aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a south-easterly direction. That same afternoon, the C-160 violated once more the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area Karpasia before returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

On 28 October, two (2) Turkish military aircraft (1 C-160, as well as 1 B-200) entered the Nicosia flight information region, violating international air traffic regulations. The C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The B-200 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing, at 1235 hours, at the illegal airport of Tymbou, in the occupied area of the Republic, from where it departed, at 1405 hours, returning to the flight information region of Ankara.

As stated in my previous letters, these Turkish unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus are in violation of international air traffic rules and, at the same time, they are in contravention of the provisions of Security Council resolutions on Cyprus.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish strongly to protest these new provocative acts by Turkey, which demonstrate once more Turkey's blatant disregard of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and all of the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

I would also like to underline that the present violations occurred after the adoption of Security Council resolution 1251 (1999) of 29 June 1999, which called upon all States to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and to refrain from any action which might prejudice that sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. My Government expects that the Turkish side will show compliance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions.

I would also like to underline that such actions take place at a time when the international community is expecting a different attitude from the Turkish side, more specifically a positive response for the convening of comprehensive negotiations for a just settlement of the Cyprus problem, as called for in Security Council resolution 1250 (1999) of 29 June 1999.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotos ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative